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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 15, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554 RECENSED

APR 1 5 1997

Federal Communications Communication
Office of Secretary

Re: <u>RM - 9006</u>

Notice of Ex Parte Contact

Dear Mr. Caton:

In accordance with the Commission's rules, this will provide notice that a letter concerning the above-captioned rulemaking proceeding was distributed to several members of the Federal Communications Commission on June 21, 1996. More particularly, this paper was distributed to Hon. Chairman Reed E. Hundt, Hon. Commissioner James H. Quello, Hon. Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong, Hon. Commissioner Susan Ness, Nina M. Sandman and Kurt Shroeder.

A copy of this letter is attached. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

David A. Irwin

Encl.

cc (w/enc.): Mark C. Rosenblum, Esq.

Peter H. Jacoby, Esq.

TTS/nc.

E. D. "Bud" Raus Chairman

Dick R. Segress President

P.O. Box 77 Big Cabin, Oklahoma 74332 (918) 783-5111 (918) 783-5510 FAX 220 W. Wilshire, Suite F-1 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73116 (405) 842-1764 FAX (405) 842-1785

April 15, 1997

Mr. Reed E. Hundt Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Room 814 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Total Telecommunications Services, Inc.

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am the president of Total Telecommunications Services, Inc. (TTS, Inc.) a fledgling competitive local exchange carrier and competitive access provider that furnishes local switching and termination of interstate calls in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to an effective FCC tariff. (For the record I also operate Terral Telephone Company, an incumbent LEC in Oklahoma.) For over a year and a half, my small company has been the target of an AT&T campaign to drive competitive local telephone service providers out of business. I implore your assistance in investigating this matter, now pending before the FCC, and bringing to an end this intolerable situation.

In the fall of 1995, AT&T began blocking interstate traffic to telephone numbers my company acquired from an incumbent local exchange carrier under an interconnection agreement. The numbers were used by my first customer in order to provide a multiple voice bridging service ("MVBS"). MVBS is a service that allows members of the public to engage in conversations individually or in groups. MVBS does not offer the caller any information or entertainment services of any kind; it simply conferences those who wish to communicate among themselves.

Despite my best efforts, AT&T repeatedly refused invitations to negotiate and refused requests to reestablish interconnection. Eventually, I was forced to take my case to federal court where I asked the court to order AT&T to reestablish interconnection to my company and stop blocking its customers from calling numbers operated by my company. Due to

Chairman Reed E. Hundt April 15, 1997 Page 2

many misrepresentations propounded by AT&T, the federal courts were unresponsive to my pleas for urgently needed relief. After a year of protracted and costly legal maneuvering, during which time my company suffered tremendously, the federal courts placed my plight at your doorstep. The case is <u>Total Telecommunications Services</u>. Inc. and Atlas Telephone Company, Inc. v. AT&T Corp. FCC File No. E-97-03.

Incredibly, while attempting to systematically expel my customer's MVBS from the market, AT&T began working with other companies to provide service similar to the service that my customer provides. Given its dominant position, AT&T helped these companies provide like services without fear of competition from my customer.

Mr. Chairman, I am a small businessman and a taxpayer. In my lifetime, I have never been subjected to such flagrant and oppressive misconduct. I do not understand why AT&T's unlawful practices have been permitted to continue at the expense of an emerging local telephone service provider. Particularly despite the many efforts by the legislature and the FCC to create an environment for competition.

Accordingly, I respectfully request your help in expediting review of my case. Any assistance you may provide in bringing about a timely and belated resolution is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Dick R. Segress

President-

DRS/js

cc:

Commissioner James H. Quello Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner Susan Ness Ms. Nina M. Sandman Mr. Kurt Shroeder